

Office of the Attorney General State of Texas

DAN MORALES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

May 28, 1998

Ms. Tamara Armstrong Assistant County Attorney County of Travis P.O. Box 1748 Austin, Texas 78767

OR98-1318

Dear Ms. Armstrong:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Texas Open Records Act, chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 115524.

The Travis County District Attorney received a request for a specific incident report. You claim that the information you have marked is excepted from disclosure under section 552.101 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.101 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure "information considered to be confidential by law, either constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision." Section 552.101 encompasses common-law privacy and excepts from disclosure private facts about an individual. *Industrial Found. v. Texas Indus. Accident Bd.*, 540 S.W.2d 668 (Tex. 1976), cert. denied, 430 U.S. 931 (1977). Therefore, information may be withheld from the public when (1) it is highly intimate or embarrassing such that its release would be highly objectionable to a person of ordinary sensibilities, and (2) there is no legitimate public interest in its disclosure. *Id.* at 685; Open Records Decision No. 611 (1992) at 1. After reviewing the documents at issue, we agree that most of the information you have marked is protected from disclosure under the common-law right to privacy. We have marked the information that must be released to the requestor.

We are resolving this matter with an informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. This ruling is limited to the particular records at issue under the facts presented to us in this request and should not be relied on as a previous

determination regarding any other records. If you have any questions regarding this ruling, please contact our office.

Yours very truly,

June B. Harden

Assistant Attorney General Open Records Division

JBH/ch

Ref.: ID# 115524

Enclosures: Marked documents

cc: Mr. Adam Schreiber

12320 Alameda Trace Circle, Apt. #304

Austin, Texas 78727 (w/o enclosures)